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| Typed or Printed Name | Alan W. Cannon | | |
| Signature | | Date | 8/6/03 |

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|--|----------------------------------|--|
| AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116 Address to: Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | Attorney Docket Confirmation No. | GUID-003CON3 1695 |
| | First Named Inventor | Charles S. Taylor |
| | Application Number | 10/020,451 |
| | Filing Date | December 14, 2001 |
| | Group Art Unit | 3736 |
| | Examiner Name | Nasser, Robert L. |
| | Title | Surgical Devices for Imposing a Negative Pressure to Stabilize Cardiac Tissue During Surgery n |

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 9, 2003 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before August 9, 2003. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.

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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/020,451 | |
| | Confirmation Number | 1695 | |
| | Filing Date | December 14, 2001 | |
| | First Named Inventor | TAYLOR, CHARLES S. | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3731 | |
| | Examiner Name | Nasser, Robert L. | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 7 | Attorney Docket Number | GUID-003CON3 |
| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): - Copies of References - Postcard | RECEIVED AUG 13 2003 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700 |
| Remarks | | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
| Firm or Individual Name | ALAN W. CANNON, Reg. No. 34,977 | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Date | August 6, 2003 | | |

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: October 9, 2002 | | | |
| Typed or printed name | Alan W. Cannon | | |
| Signature | | Date | August 6, 2003 |

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